

It is respectfully submitted that support for the new claims 49-57 exists throughout the original disclosure. Applicant herein identifies some examples of such support.

Referring to claim 49, it is noted that a significant portion of the elements of the claim are found in original claim 1. Additional support is found throughout the specification including, for example, at page 4, lines 1 to 20. Inulin is discussed throughout the specification; see, for example, page 13, lines 8-9, page 15, lines 14-20, page 12, lines 21-26, page 13, lines 8-14, page 46, lines 5-6, and page 46, lines 20-21. Reference to pellets of uniform size and shape can be found at page 7, lines 19-20. With respect to the pellets being unaerated, see, for example, page 9, lines 3-6, and page 35, line 25 to page 37, line 4. For the entirety of the claim, attention is further directed to page 34, line 31 through page 40, line 2 (and more particularly page 39, line 29 to page 40, line 2).

Referring to claim 50, reference is made to the citations noted above with respect to claim 49, and additionally page 3, lines 29-30.

Referring to claim 51, reference is made to the citations noted above with respect to claims 49 and 50, and additionally page 20, lines 7-26.

Referring to claims 52 and 57, reference is made to the citations noted above and also to page 3, lines 7-10.

Referring to claim 53, reference is made to the citations noted above and also to page 22, line 3.

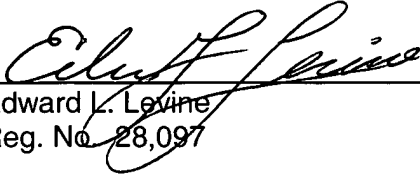
Referring to claims 54-56, reference is made to page 30, Formula 15, page 36, Table 1, page 41 (Table 3), and page 45, Table 6.

It is respectfully submitted that the above citations, as well as other disclosure throughout the specification, provide adequate basis for the subject matter claimed in new claims 49-57 and for all of the claims in the case. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 2-4, 6-14, 16-19, 21-22, 32-35, 37-38, and 49-57 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if such would advance the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 15, 2008



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